

Application No.: 09/917,786Docket No.: 1509-206**REMARKS**

The abstract has been amended to conform to US practice.

Claim 1 has been combined with claim 2 and now contains the limitations set forth therein. Claim 2 has been canceled. Claim 3, as amended, now depends from claim 1. Claims 8, 13, 15 and 16 have been amended to include the limitations set forth in claim 1 and now appear in independent form. Claim 10 has been amended to depend on claim 1. Claims 18 and 19, and have been combined to form newly amended claim 18, which now appears in independent form; and claims 18 and 20 have been combined to form newly amended claim 20, which also appears in independent form. Claim 19 has been canceled. Claim 28 has been amended to depend on now allowable claim 27, in its amended form. Claim 31 has been amended to now depend on claim 18. Claim 27 has been rewritten in independent form and contains the limitations of claim 18 in its original form. Claims 2, 7, 24 and 35 have been canceled. Applicant notes with appreciation that claims 2-4, 8, 10-16, 19-21, 25-28, and 31-33 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Solely to expedite prosecution, Claim 18 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 2. Claim 19 has been canceled.

Additionally, claims 5, 6 and 26 have been amended to correct a clerical type error while claims 1, 3, 5-6, 9, 13-14, 18, and 23 have been amended to cure the informality objections set forth by the Examiner in the office action.

Claims 3 and 10 have been amended so they now depend on claim 1; claims 26 and 31 have been amended so they now depend on claim 18. These amendments were made to expedite prosecution and to preclude any interpretation thereof under 35 U.S.C. §112, sixth paragraph.

Claims 28 and 29 were amended for clarity.